

Mr. W. Knight Surgeon to an Hospital at Limerick in
Ireland takes the Liberty of saying the following observations
before the Royal Academy of Surgery

1 observation.



A young man about 24 years of age was recommended to the
Hospital for cure about eight months ago. The great disorder
was the Humerus from its neck to a bone an Inch above the con-
dyles, there were several sinuses w^{ch} discharged an uncommon
quantity of matter, on examining with the probe I found the bone
bare & Carious every where, it began by a swelling of the arm
about three years before, I dilated the sinuses largely and
dressed twice a day with Compound Tincture of Myrrh &c and kept
the edges for a scabber by introducing some prepared sponge from
time to time and at the same time gave him the bark in powder.
w^{ch} he continued to take for a long time, in three months I per-
ceived the bone somewhat loose and could I seize it with the
forceps near the neck of the bone where I first perceived a sepa-
ration or division by its yielding more there with the forceps,
by straining and gently moving it at each dressing I extract^d
the entire bone the fourth month I do not mean ^{here} an excoriation
but every part of the bone as far as I described & in one entire
piece with its cavity, in a short time after the arm healed and
a hard bony substance was formed in the place of the original
bone as firm & as hard as the humerus but somewhat larger
& more uneven, the man is well & can use that arm as well
as the other, the reason I gave him the bark was I judged he
was Scrophulous and he was greatly relaxed from the great
discharge of matter —

Observation the 2^d.

In the Course of these six last years Practice in the Hospital I have taken out the tibial bone of four different persons from a little below the tuberosity to about three fingers breadth or thereabouts above the ankle, each one filled up with a hard callous substance, the all walk well & the legs are strong but thicker and more deformed than the other, all these I judged were scrofulous disorders immediately affecting the bones.

3^d observation

is one on the side of the lower Jaw bone from it's Symphysis to the angle of the Jaw, it is to be seen with the sockets somewhat defaced, nature filled up it's place with a bony substance like it in the form of the original bly it has no sockets & teeth.

4th observation.

A Man aged about 40 years sent for me to examine a sore he had on his neck for some time before, on examining the neck I perceived an opening scarce large enough to admit the end of the smallest probe, thro' this opening a thin silver pass'd w^{ch} made him uneasy, by introducing a small wire probe I found it took it's direction from about an Inch above the Clavicle to the distance of an Inch below the angle of the lower Jaw in a straight direction on the side of the neck, this fistula I opened it's full length in the presence of Doct^r Martin a Physician of eminence, some days after the operation he said he perceived some of the liquor he drank to have pass'd thro' externally and wet his shirt and told us he often before the operation found a small quantity of what he drank to pass that way to ^{he} disco^{ve}red by it's smell, to be convinced of the certainty of this I made use of Injections w^{ch} pass'd into the mouth in large quantities, this I repeated several times in the presence of the Physician and found it always pass'd into the mouth, in sometime after the external opening heal'd I seem'd

Well cicatrised and no moisture or oozing persisted -
The man continues still well, it is about 12 months since I opened
this - This I take the liberty of mentioning as I never found in the
History of Surgery a case equal to it,

If any of those Cases should appear new or interesting or worth the
notice of the Royal Academy of Surgery of Paris I shall have them
properly attested by the Physicians and Surgeons who saw them,
and by the governors of the Hospitals or the bones shall be sent
here if necessary, when I parted Ireland I did not think I would come
to Paris otherwise I would have brought the arm & saw bone with
me -

Sept. 6. 1770

n.º 14.

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